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In re Application of

Isamu HOTTA et al.

Patent Art Unit: 3747

Serial No.: 10/694,013

Examiner: Hai Huynh

Filed: October 28, 2003

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Signature of David K. Tarnoff**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the April 21, 2004 Office Action, Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the rejection of the pending claims 1-16 in view of the following comments.

In particular, claims 1-16 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,470,850 (Sasaki et al. patent), while claims 15 and 16 further stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,622,690 (Ando et al. patent). No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of this application. Claims 1-16 are pending, with claims 1, 15 and 16 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the following comments.